



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 10995-2330

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Juro Ozeki et al.) Group Art Unit: 1796
Application No.: 10/524,135) Examiner: Patrick Dennis Niland
Filed: April 5, 2006)
For: Polyphenylene Ether Based Resin) Confirmation No.: 2415
Composition)

Commissioner for Patents
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Sir:

RESPONSE

In the Final Office Action of December 10, 2008, the Examiner continued to reject claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over Shiraki in view of Coran.

Claim 1 relates to a polyphenylene ester based resin composition that comprises:

- (a) a polyphenylene ether based resin and optionally a styrene based resin;
- (b) a styrene based thermoplastic elastomer modified with an imidazolidinone compound; and
- (c) a clay that has been surface treated with a silane compound.

Shiraki discloses a polyphenylene ether resin (component (a) of the present invention) and a styrene based thermoplastic elastomer modified with an imidazolidinone compound (component (b) of the present invention). Further, Shiraki discloses clay as an example of a reinforcement or filler which may be incorporated into